

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee
Minutes of Monday, May 9, 2011 @ 9:00 A.M.
Lincoln County Service Center Conference Room 107
801 N. Sales St., Suite 106, Merrill, WI 54452 **715-539-1034

Members Present: Graham Rankin, Richard Berndt, Dave Fox and John Bailey

Visitors: Gary Hilgendorf, Will Duckett, Joan Giusto, Mike Lietz, Kevin Kleinschmidt, Russ Werner, John Lemke, Bruce Dassow, Alfred Lemke, Rick Graap, Russ Lange, Greg Schenzel, Rick Sosnovske, Bruce McKinney, Lyndon & Mary Watland, Lee Rahlf, Dean Bowe, Sherrie Zortman and others

1. Call meeting to order. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee met on Monday, May 9, 2011 in Conference Room 107, Lincoln County Service Center. The meeting was called to order by Chair Graham Rankin at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approve minutes of April 11, 2011 meeting. Motion by Bailey, second by Berndt to approve minutes of April 11, 2011 meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. Review year to date budget report. Kevin presented budget report. The Committee reviewed year to date budget report and placed on file.

4. Comments from members of the public or invited guests. No comments.

5. Open and award any land sale bids. One bid was received for Parcel #1, Town of Bradley by John and Wendy Plaskey in the amount of \$10,251.00. Motion by Bailey, second by Fox to accept the bid received for Parcel #1 by John and Wendy Plaskey in the amount of \$10,251.00. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. Approve direct timber sale for storm damaged wood. Kevin informed the Committee of a timber sale established to salvage storm damaged wood in the Town of Schley, and advised several quotes were received for the cleanup. Kevin recommended that the direct timber sale be sold to Graap Logging, who offered the highest quote in the amount of \$20,325. Motion by Rankin, second by Berndt to approve direct timber sale be sold to Graap Logging. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. County involvement in snowmobile trail grooming. Gary Hilgendorf and Will Duckett, representing the Knight Owls Snowmobile Club, appeared to express their club's interest in taking over snowmobile trail grooming on trails maintained by the Forestry Department. Kevin referred to discussions held at previous committee meetings and further discussion followed. Kevin will schedule a meeting with snowmobile clubs involved to look at developing a plan and will keep the Committee updated.

8. CIP request. Discussion was held regarding CIP request for equipment replacement. Motion by Rankin, second by Berndt to approve 2012 CIP request. All ayes. Motion carried

9. Request by local Ice Age Trail Chapter to place a memorial bench in the Underdown. Kevin advised that the local Ice Age Trail Chapter would like to donate a bench to be placed in the Underdown as a memorial to honor Phil Schaefer, who was a major contributor to the development of silent sport trails in Lincoln County. A plaque in his honor would also be displayed in the Forestry office for a period of time and then presented to his family. Motion by Rankin, second by Bailey to approve request of local Ice Age Trail Chapter. All ayes. Motion carried.

(Order of items on agenda changed in interest of time.)

12. Approve attendance at WCFA Summer Tour – June 23-24, 2011. Kevin distributed the agenda for the WCFA Summer Tour to be held in Oneida County. Motion by Fox, second by Rankin to approve Committee attendance, authorizing mileage and per diem for members attending the WCFA Summer Tour. All ayes. Motion carried.

13. Landfill timber sale. Kevin explained that the Forestry Department would like to establish, sell and administer a timber sale on the Landfill property for their expansion project, and dollars received from the sale will be turned over to the Landfill. Motion by Bailey, second by Berndt to approve Landfill timber sale. All ayes. Motion carried.

11. Open timber sale bids – 10:00 a.m. Kevin welcomed those present, made introductions and explained the bidding procedure. Timber sale bids were opened and read. A total of 148 bids on 15 jobs were opened.

10. Approve 2012 preliminary budget. Kevin went through and explained budget items line by line and discussion was held. Motion by Berndt, second by Bailey to approve 2012 preliminary budget. All ayes. Motion carried.

14. Update on forester position. Kevin advised a new forester was hired and will begin employment with Lincoln County on May 16, 2011.

15. WDNR Report – Bill Groth. Mike Lietz gave the DNR report in Bill's absence. Mike reported on tornado response efforts, DNR vacancies being filled and cooperative firefighting effort with State of Texas.

16. Review Administrator's written report. Kevin advised that ATV trails are still closed but may be opened this weekend, and of the success that the County's Face Book page has seen. The Administrator's written report was reviewed and placed on file.

17. Close timber sales. There were no timber sales to close.

18. Set next meeting date. The next Forestry, Land and Parks Committee meetings are set as follows: Monday, June 13, 2011 and July 11, 2011 at 8:30 a.m., Lincoln County Service Center, Conference Room 107.

19. Award timber sale bids. The timber sale bids were reviewed by the Committee. The total estimated value for the 15 jobs sold was \$755,702.75. Motion by Rankin, second by Berndt to award sales to apparent high bidders pending any necessary reference checks. All ayes. Motion carried.

20. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Rankin, second by Fox to adjourn at 11:15 a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.